

Bunny's track record of creativity and competence brought her to the attention of the National Association of Synagogue Administrators. At their national conferences, Bunny delivered papers and led seminars which earned her a national reputation for professional excellence.

Following her employment in the synagogue, Bunny went on to work for State Senator Leonard Stavisky as head of his administrative staff. After two years of exciting work in government service, Bunny was invited to join the Solomon Schechter School of Queens as its executive director. In short order, Bunny revolutionized the administration and management of the flagship day school of the Conservative Movement.

As a citizen Bunny has not neglected her civic responsibilities. She is an active member of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Democratic Association of Queens where she has served in numerous executive board committee positions, including two terms as president. Currently, she is chairperson of the board.

Jerry is a longtime member of the executive board of the FDR Association where he has served as vice president of programming and is currently vice president of administration.

Jerry's work in the community is beautifully represented by his service as a docent at the Ridder Museum in Roslyn, where some of his own masterworks in the art of miniaturization have been displayed to the general public.

Jerry have given freely and fully of his time to the Center in his own capacity as a caring, committed Center member who has impacted powerfully on the good work of the *Bikur Cholim* Committee and other committees as well as serving as in-house videographer for countless Center programs.

Mr. Speaker, Bunny and Jerry Frankel are a model American couple who have provided exemplary service to the Hollis Hills Jewish Center and the Jewish community in Queens. I know the whole House of Representatives joins me in thanking them for their years of dedication and commitment.

TRIBUTE TO ERNANI C. FALCONE

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2002

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a man of conviction and honor, Ernani C. Falcone. Regrettably, Ernani Falcone passed away on Monday, May 13, 2002, but his strong, booming voice that always embraced the downtrodden and defended democratic ideals, will resonate with us forever.

Ernani, who many affectionately called "Nani", was many things at once, both a commander and a warrior; both a dedicated Democratic leader respected by the political elite, and a champion of the little guy; both a revered member of the San Antonio community and an activist who fought for local environmental preservation. He was colorful, charismatic, controversial, and always willing to stand up against special interests. San Antonio Mayor Ed Garza said of "Nani" who was a close friend and advisor, "He often spoke in a loud roar, but he did so thinking with his big heart."

A native Philadelphian by birth, but a Texan by nature, Ernani was a graduate of Princeton

University who always made a point of challenging the status quo and on occasion, unleashing a devilish laugh. He gained widespread recognition when, 10 years ago, he began positioning himself at the center of all major policy debates in San Antonio.

Ernani's political career began in Delaware County, a Philadelphia suburb, where he was the chair of the Delaware Democratic Party for 12 years. In 1987, he moved his family south, where he embroiled himself in Texas politics. Brash and flamboyant, he took San Antonio politics by the reins—becoming the founder of the Northwest Neighborhood Alliance and president of the Braun Station West Community Improvement Association.

A lover of nature, Ernani helped develop San Antonio's 1996 tree-preservation ordinance and later fought to make the ordinance stronger. It is difficult to think of someone who has worked harder, and with more devotion, to protect the environment of our ever growing city. Ernani was the kind of guy who, facing a city of growing skyscrapers, would notice even the smallest trees.

Most recently, Ernani was serving on a technical advisory committee that monitored revisions of San Antonio's Unified Development Code and was a member of the Zoning Commission. He never gave up. When decisions were being made that affected the San Antonio people that he loved so much, Ernani was there. Dressed flamboyantly in his bright shirts and ties that matched his personality, he was never a silent bystander.

It would be unwise, and perhaps impossible to forget Ernani Falcone. More than a president, commissioner, founder, or educator, he was an apotheosis for all politicians. He came to San Antonio with a bang, and the memory of his humanitarianism will not leave quietly. I stand here today to bid a farewell to "Nani" for all to hear. It is a fitting way to say goodbye.

HONORING DEPUTY SHERIFF DENNIS PHELPS

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2002

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Fresno County Deputy Sheriff Dennis Phelps. Deputy Phelps was killed in the line of duty on May 19, 2002.

Dennis was born in Leon, Iowa, on October 11, 1954. His family moved to Fresno, California, where he graduated from McLane High School in 1972.

Deputy Phelps began his career in law enforcement in the early 1980s as a special guard/bailiff assigned to the courts in Fresno County. After some time away from the department, he returned as a reserve deputy sheriff in June of 1999. He was hired as a full-time peace officer on October 30, 2000. Deputy Phelps successfully completed field training and was promoted to Deputy Sheriff Two on January 7, 2002. Dennis was Deputy Sheriff on Patrol of the Northeast Field Services.

In this time of unyielding resolve in our support of those who protect our nation both internally and externally, I offer my deepest sympathy and heartfelt appreciation to Deputy Phelps' wife, Dana, and children, Nicole and Kenny. I also thank the Fresno County Sher-

iff's Department for the services they provide and extend my condolences to them as they grieve the loss of their colleague. Deputy Phelps is a hero for his service and his sacrifice and we honor him for both.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Deputy Sheriff Dennis Phelps. I invite my colleagues to join me in a moment of silence and in honoring Deputy Phelps for his service to the community.

TRIBUTE TO CEDAR INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Cedar International Fellowship, of Brooklyn New York, and the visionary whose efforts have made this whole endeavor possible, Reverend Robert L.A. Reaves.

In the fall of 2001, while at the Cedar of Lebanon Baptist Church, located at 220 Hegeman Avenue, Brooklyn, New York, Reverend Reaves conducted a meeting for the express purpose of organizing a new church. On November 17, 2001, with the purpose of equipping the new church for the perfecting of saints for the work of the ministry, Reverend Reaves organized a church growth symposium at the Seaview Diner.

The new church was born on January 26, 2002, at 400 Thatford Avenue, in Brooklyn. Reverend Reaves resigned his position in the old Cedar Church, and assumed the role of founder and Senior Pastor of the new church, which was to be called the Cedar International Fellowship. The first worship service, attended by 108 members as well as by numerous visitors, was held on February 3, 2002. The spirituality of this ecstatic service reached such a peak, that the members joyously proclaimed: "Thus Saith the Lord, I will also take off the highest branch of the high cedar, and will set it; I will crop off from the top of his young twigs a tender one, and will plant it upon a high mountain."

But this was not a one-time occurrence. The International Fellowship has been described as a place "where the worshipers worship and the word comes alive." It focuses on Evangelism through the expository preaching of the word of God and the discipling of its members. Subsequently, the Church's vision statement is "winning one to win one to win another." This atmosphere of outreach has caused the Church's membership to multiply to the extent that, only several months after its inception, the Church can now boast of having 1000 members.

Therefore, I urge my colleagues to recognize the achievements of Reverend Reaves and the Cedar International Fellowship Church.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING LUCAS JEFFREY CIFRANIC

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2002

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker,